DARK HORSE COMICS
THE SHADOW
1 OF 3
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THE Shadow
KALUTA • GOSS
GIANNI
HELL'S HEAT WAVE

THE Shadow®

KALUTA • GOSS GIANNI

HELL'S HEAT WAVE

A SHADOW ADVENTURE
IN THREE PARTS

PART 1

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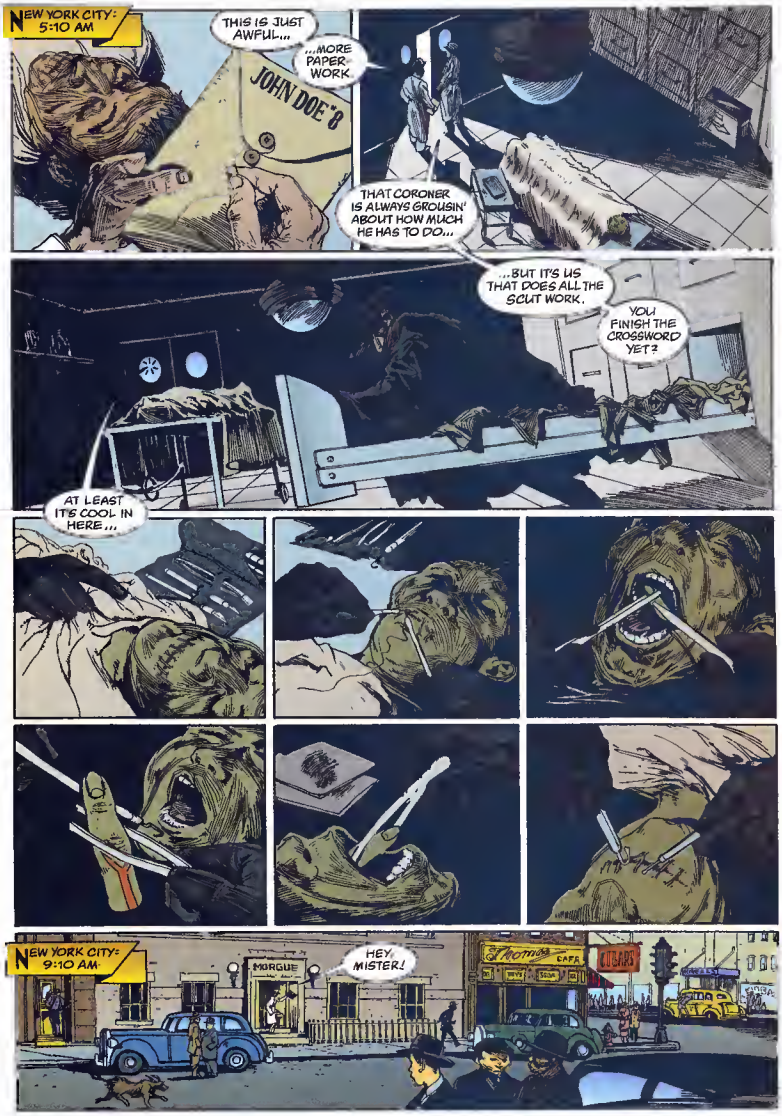
NEW YORK CITY: 4:10 AM
...AND THERE'S NO INCOME TAX, McGILL.
I'M OUTTA HERE, BOSS.
LOCK THE DOOR BEHIND YOU.
SO WHAT'S IT G--
DENNIS McGILL-- I KNOW THE WEAKNESS IN YOUR HEART...
WHO--
...BUT DO NOT AGREE TO WHAT THIS AUBREY ASKS OF YOU.
SHUT UP! KEEP AWAY FROM US!
BLAM!
BLAMM! BLAMM!
STEVE AUBREY-- YOU WERE A BOOTLEGGER WHEN IT WAS PROFITABLE, AND NOW YOU WOULD LEAD OTHERS INTO THE PERPETUAL TWILIGHT OF DRUG ADDICTION.
BLAMM!
YOU WILL NOT SUCCEED
OPIUM IS AN INSIDIOUS SNAKE THAT COILS AROUND A SOUL, SQUEEZING OUT ALL LIFE.
DO NOT FOLLOW HIM, DENNIS McGILL-- YOU ARE WARNED.
HAHAHAHAHAHAHA

NEW YORK CITY: 4:20 AM
ANYTHING?
NOTHIN' YET.
ME NEITHER... YIPES, WAIT A MINUTE— I GOT SOMETHING!
EASY... EASY... DON'T LOSE HIM.
I GOT HIM, I GOT HIM!
HAUL HIM IN--LET'S GET A LOOK AT THIS BABY
LOOK AT HIM, WOULDYA? SOMEBODY GET THE CAMERA
PULL HIM ON OUT...EASY, NOW.
DON'T WORRY, SARGE. WE WON'T HURT HIM NONE.
GEEZO, LOOK AT HIS FACE!
MAX, GET A CLOSE SHOT OF THIS GUY'S PAN. I WANT TO SEE THOSE STITCHES.
WAIT A MINUTE... AND ONE MORE— FOR LUCK.
ALL RIGHT, CLEAN HIM UP AND GET HIM OUT OF HERE. THE CORONER'LL CHECK HIM OUT AT THE MORGUE.

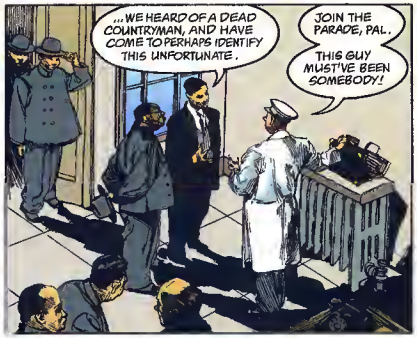
HELL'S HEAT WAVE
JULY 6, 1936 -- RECORD TEMPERATURE: 106°
NO NEED TO HURRY. LAY OFF THE SIREN, ARCH.

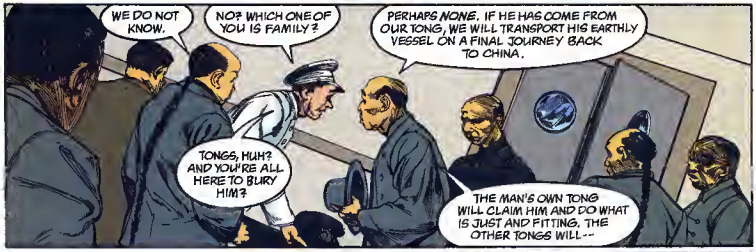
OKAY, BUT I'M STILL GONNA USE THE FLASHING LIGHTS.

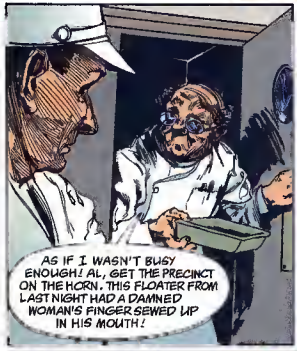
FORDHAM


NEW YORK CITY: 5:10 AM
THIS IS JUST AWFUL...
...MORE PAPER WORK
JOHN DOE #8
THAT CORONER IS ALWAYS GROUSIN' ABOUT HOW MUCH HE HAS TO DO...
...BUT IT'S US THAT DOES ALL THE SCUT WORK.
YOU FINISH THE CROSSWORD YET?
AT LEAST IT'S COOL IN HERE...
NEW YORK CITY: 9:10 AM
MORGUE
HEY, MISTER!
CAFE
CUBANS

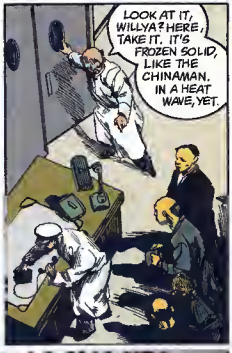
WAIT A MINUTE-- YOU FORGOT YOUR SATCHEL! HEY!
WELL, HE'LL BE BACK...
PRAY EXCUSE OUR INTERRUPTING...


...WE HEARD OF A DEAD COUNTRYMAN, AND HAVE COME TO PERHAPS IDENTIFY THIS UNFORTUNATE.
JOIN THE PARADE, PAL.
THIS GUY MUST'VE BEEN SOMEBODY!


WE DO NOT KNOW.
NO? WHICH ONE OF YOU IS FAMILY?
PERHAPS NONE. IF HE HAS COME FROM OUR TONG, WE WILL TRANSPORT HIS EARTHLY VESSEL ON A FINAL JOURNEY BACK TO CHINA.
TONGS, HUH? AND YOU'RE ALL HERE TO BURY HIM?
THE MAN'S OWN TONG WILL CLAIM HIM AND DO WHAT IS JUST AND FITTING. THE OTHER TONGS WILL--


AS IF I WASN'T BUSY ENOUGH! AL, GET THE PRECINCT ON THE HORN. THIS FLOATER FROM LAST NIGHT HAD A DAMNED WOMAN'S FINGER SEWED UP IN HIS MOUTH!

WHAT?!
NOT THAT IT'LL DO 'EM ANY GOOD, BUT I GOT A NICE CLEAR PRINT FROM THE THING.


LOOK AT IT, WILLYA? HERE, TAKE IT. IT'S FROZEN SOLID, LIKE THE CHINAMAN. IN A HEAT WAVE, YET.

HAVE 'EM SEND SOMEBODY RIGHT OVER. I'LL BE IN THERE TRYIN' TO FIGURE THIS OUT. AS IF I WASN'T BUSY ENOUGH.

IT SEEMS WE HAVE A PROBLEM NOT EASILY HANDLED.
ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE IS INDICATED...
ESPECIALLY AS THE FAN-QUI POLICE ARE COMING.
COME ALONG, WOO. I MUST CONSULT YAO GET.
THIS IS AL. LISTEN, THE CORONER WANTS TO SEE YOU RIGHT AWAY...
PRETTY GRISLY.
WELL, I'LL SEE...
YUP, I'LL TRY.
WING GEE WOO! WE MUST NOT DELAY.
I REGRET THAT I MUST REPORT THIS NEW DEVELOPMENT TO MY CHIEFTAIN.
IT IS SO.
WAIT A MINUTE--IT'S GONE!
WHAT?
C'MERE, YOU!
YOU WERE CLOSEST... AHA!
I ASSURE YOU THAT I DID NOT--
BLAM BLAM BLAM!
CRASH!

BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!
PT-TING!
BEYOW!
BLAM!
BLAM! BLAM!
BARBER
CHOW!
P-TOWW!
MORGUE
POW!
BR-UMMMMMM
BLAM!
SCREEEEEE!

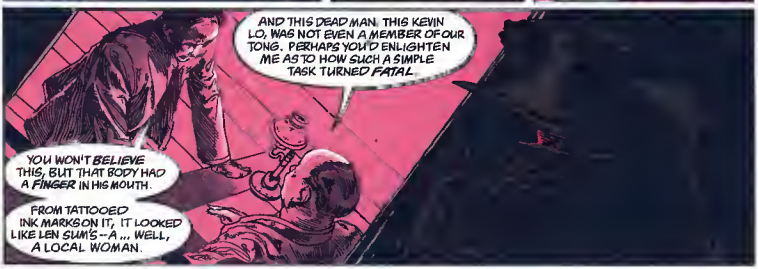
CHINATOWN: 10:14 PM
REPORT.
...GOOD. I AM TWO BLOCKS AWAY. HAVE SHREWY WAITING FOR ME THERE IN ONE HOUR.

WON KOW

IT IS MOST PROVIDENTIAL THAT YOU ARE MY BROTHER. ELSE THE MISFORTUNE THAT SHADOWS YOU WOULD LONG SINCE HAVE PROVED... TIRESOME.
HALF-BROTHER.

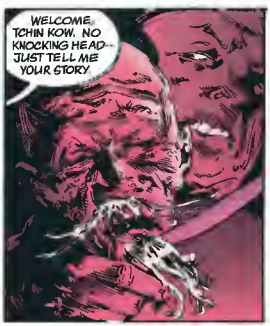
BUT IT WOULD SEEM THAT LUCK RAN WITH YOU TODAY...

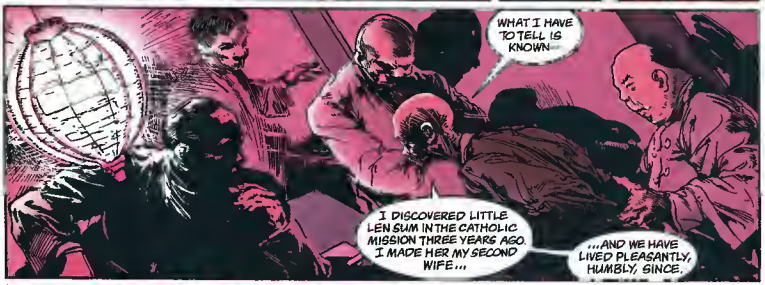
...MANY AT THE MORGUE WERE MORTALLY WOUNDED.


AND THIS DEAD MAN, THIS KEVIN LO, WAS NOT EVEN A MEMBER OF OUR TONG. PERHAPS YOU'D ENLIGHTEN ME AS TO HOW SUCH A SIMPLE TASK TURNED FATAL.
YOU WON'T BELIEVE THIS, BUT THAT BODY HAD A FINGER IN HIS MOUTH.
FROM TATTOOED INK MARKS ON IT, IT LOOKED LIKE LEN SUM'S - A ... WELL, A LOCAL WOMAN.

I DO BELIEVE YOU.

HOW DID YOU--?
HERE IS LEN SUM'S HUSBAND.


WELCOME, TCHIN KOW. NO KNOCKING HEAD-- JUST TELL ME YOUR STORY.


WHAT I HAVE TO TELL IS KNOWN--
I DISCOVERED LITTLE LEN SUM IN THE CATHOLIC MISSION THREE YEARS AGO. I MADE HER MY SECOND WIFE...
...AND WE HAVE LIVED PLEASANTLY, HUMBLY, SINCE.

BUT I HAVE NOT SEEN HER IN MANY DAYS.
IT IS SO, TA JEN.

WOO HERE HAS MADE AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY, BUT AN UNHAPPY ONE.

THE FINGER OF LEN SUM WAS FOUND... ALIVE OR DEAD, SHE IS NOT COMPLETE.

WOO MADE A MISGUIDED ATTEMPT TO RECOVER THE MEMBER. WHERE HE HAS FAILED, I HAVE SUCCEEDED.
TAKE IT AND GO.

THE MANNER OF DEATH IS OBVIOUSLY MEANT AS AN INSULT-- BUT WHY, AND FROM WHOM?
VENGEANCE SEEMS TO HAVE WAITED THREE YEARS. A PUZZLE... AND ANOTHER CHANCE FOR YOU, LITTLE BROTHER...

... FOLLOW HIM EITHER TCHIN KOW NEEDS HIS TONG'S HELP OR HE HAS BROUGHT SHAME UPON US AND MUST BE DEALT WITH ACCORDINGLY.
HOLD IT, TCHIN!
THE MASTER KONG WANTS A FEW WORDS.

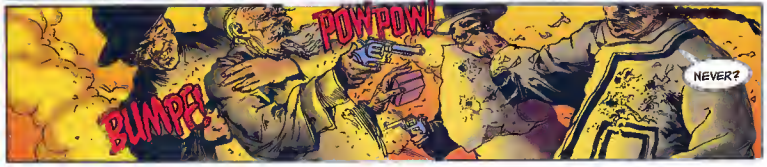
TCHIN KOW. IT HAS COME TO MY ATTENTION WE HAVE SOMETHING ... A WOMAN... IN COMMON...

TCHIN KOW!

BOOM!

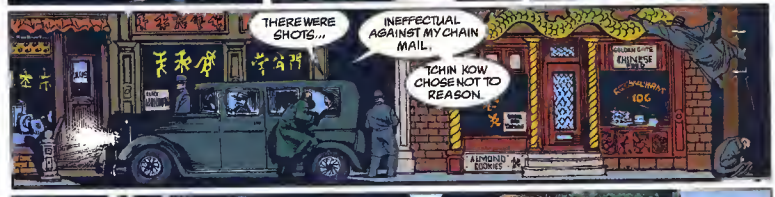
TAKE HIM TO DR. TAM— I'LL BE THERE DIRECTLY.
BLAM!
NO!

BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!
NEVER NEVER NEVER!!


POWPOW!
BUMPH!
NEVER?

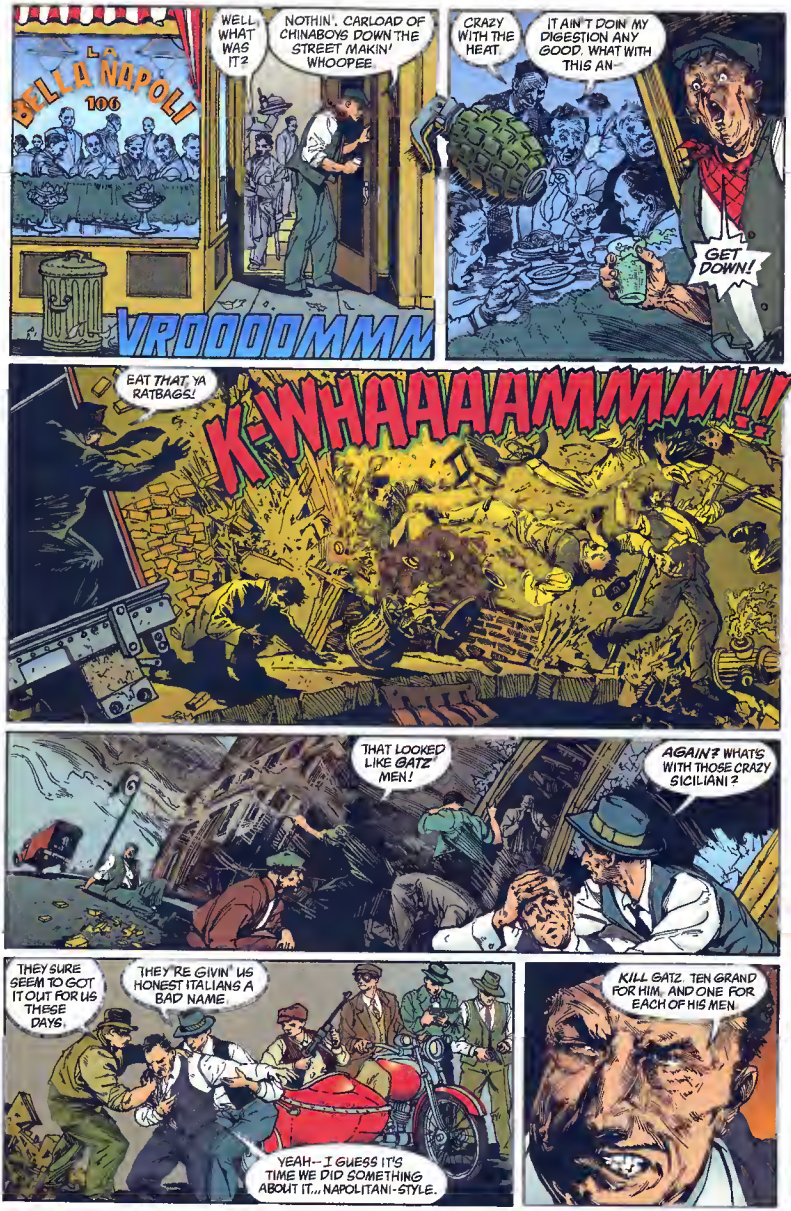
AS WE WERE TOLD, IT IS THE FINGER.
A MYSTERIOUS WARNING FROM AN UNKNOWN HAND...

PERHAPS IT IS APPROPRIATE IT BE STAINED IN YOUR BLOOD.


THERE WERE SHOTS...
INEFFECTUAL AGAINST MY CHAIN MAIL.
TCHIN KOW CHOSE NOT TO REASON.
CHINESE
ALMOND COOKIES

NOW THE DIE IS CAST; CHANG MAO TONG MUST JOIN WITH THE VEE LAI TONG AGAINST OUR COMMON ENEMY. YAO GET AND WAN SUI TONG OWE US THREE LIVES!
—LESS ONE FINGER. THE MONEY IS NOW OF LESS IMPORTANCE TO ME THAN HONOR.

THEY WILL KOWTOW TO ME. QUICKLY--WE MUST MAKE PLANS.
AWAY!
YING FONG
RESTAURANT
THERE! IN THAT CAR!
SKREEEECCHHH


LA BELLA NAPOLI
106
WELL, WHAT WAS IT?
NOTHIN'. CARLOAD OF CHINABOYS DOWN THE STREET MAKIN' WHOOPEE.
VROOOOMMM
CRAZY WITH THE HEAT.
IT AIN'T DOIN' MY DIGESTION ANY GOOD. WHAT WITH THIS AN—
GET DOWN!
EAT THAT, YA RATBAGS!
K-WHAAAAMMM!!
THAT LOOKED LIKE GATZ' MEN!
AGAIN? WHAT'S WITH THOSE CRAZY SICILIANI?
THEY SURE SEEM TO GOT IT OUT FOR US THESE DAYS.
THEY'RE GIVIN' US HONEST ITALIANS A BAD NAME.
YEAH-- I GUESS IT'S TIME WE DID SOMETHING ABOUT IT... NAPOLITANI-STYLE.
KILL GATZ. TEN GRAND FOR HIM, AND ONE FOR EACH OF HIS MEN.

...OF COURSE, YOU KNOW WHAT THE TONGS ARE... THEY'RE A COMMUNITY PROTECTION ASSOCIATION DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION--OF THE COMMUNITY PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.
YOU LIE! THE BENEVOLENCE OF MY TONG EXTENDS EVEN BEYOND MY DEATH!

A DEATH THEY'LL CAUSE IF YOU'RE LATE WITH YOUR "DUES."

DARE YOU LAUGH?!
BLAM!

BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!

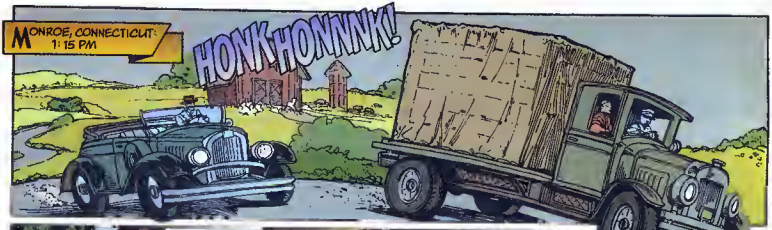
AAH... THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A NICE, COLD GLASSFUL ON A DAY SUCH AS THIS. IS THERE, O'MARA?
SURE, AND YOU'RE RIGHT, FEENY.
GACK! WHAT THE DEVIL IS THAT?
MCNAHAN FOR MAYOR

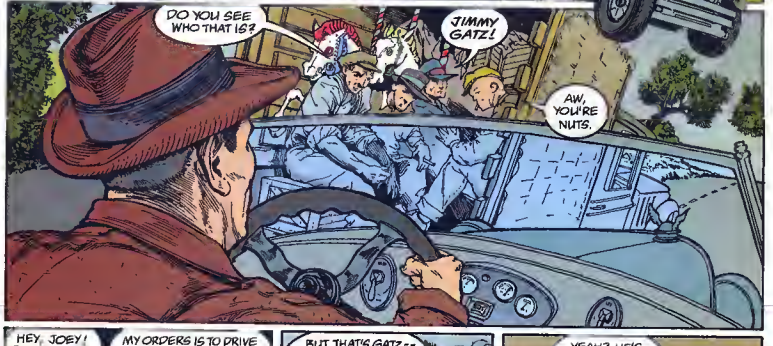
LOOKS LIKE A FINGERNAIL IN THE ICE, FOR THE LOVE OF MIKE!

STRAW, HAIR, FINGERNAIL... IT'S HAPPENED BEFORE. WHAT DO YOU EXPECT WHEN YOU'VE STOLEN THE ICE?
CHEERS.

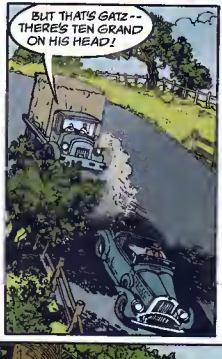
THE PRICE IS RIGHT. BUT NEXT WEEK LET'S KNOCK OVER A MORE EXPENSIVE ICE-HOUSE.
SAY, FEENY--DO YOU SMELL SOMETHING BURNING?

BADOOM!

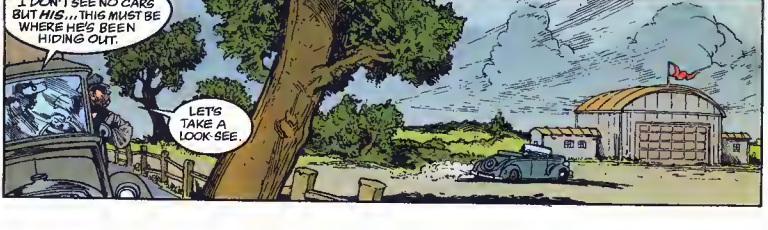

MONROE, CONNECTICUT: 1:15 PM
HONK HONNNK!


DO YOU SEE WHO THAT IS?
JIMMY GATZ!
AW, YOU'RE NUTS.

HEY, JOEY! FOLLOW THAT COUPE!
MY ORDERS IS TO DRIVE THIS HOOCH STRAIGHT BACK TO THE CITY...


BUT THAT'S GATZ -- THERE'S TEN GRAND ON HIS HEAD!

YEAH? HE'S TURNING... OKAY, HOLD ON BACK THERE!

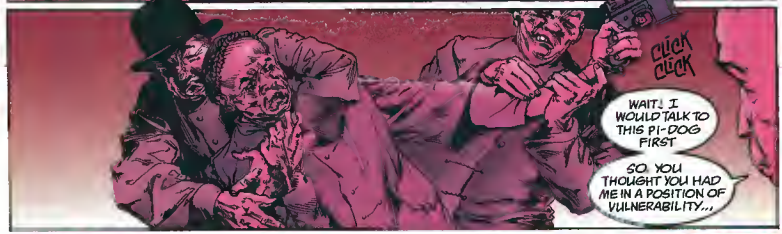

I DON'T SEE NO CARS BUT HIS... THIS MUST BE WHERE HE'S BEEN HIDING OUT.
LET'S TAKE A LOOK-SEE.

WE'LL SPLIT THE REWARD EVEN, NO MATTER WHO PUTS HIM ON THE SPOT.
EVERYBODY LOADED?
NOTHIN' HERE... SEE ANYTHING, MUSSO?
THERE HE IS!
HE WENT THROUGH THAT OTHER DOOR THERE.
C'MON. LET'S GET THAT SICILIAN S.O.B.
BLAM!
BLAM!
BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
A TRAP!
BLAM!
BRAABBBATTTTTTATTTTTTTTT!
BRATTTTTATTTTT!
BLOWW!
BLAM!

NEW YORK CITY: 8:15 PM
TENDIE IN MOB AMBUSH
AIRFIELD
CHINATOWN: 10:12 AM
TA JEN. YAO GET— YOUR BROTHER WOO HAS FINALLY BEEN FOUND
HE IS BEING BROUGHT HERE EVEN AS WE SPEAK.
THAT IS INDEED MOST INTERESTING NEWS. I HAVE MUCH TO SAY TO HIM.
AFTER THE DEATH OF THE HUSBAND, YAO GET WAS MOST INSISTENT THAT WE FIND YOU. NO ONE HAS SEEN YOU UNTIL TODAY, WHEN WE FOUND YOU WANDERING...
IT SEEMS I MUST SPEAK TO YOU AGAIN ABOUT YOUR PLACE IN THIS TONG...
I STARTED TO DO AS YOU INSTRUCTED AND THEN I REMEMBER GUNFIRE IN THE ALLEY.
AFTER THAT, EVERYTHING WENT BLANK.
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN ALL THIS TIME, LITTLE BROTHER?
I DON'T KNOW... THE LAST TWO DAYS ARE JUST MISSING.
I GAVE YOU A SIMPLE TASK...
...AND AGAIN YOU FAILED.

KONG SENDS YOU HIS DISPLEASURE, YAO GET!
BANG BANG BANG!

BANG BANG
CLICK


CLICK CLICK
WAIT! I WOULD TALK TO THIS PI-DOG FIRST
SO, YOU THOUGHT YOU HAD ME IN A POSITION OF VULNERABILITY...

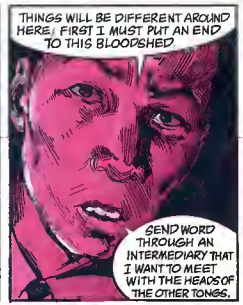
...PERHAPS THIS WILL SERVE AS A MESSAGE THAT YAO GET IS THE LORD OF—

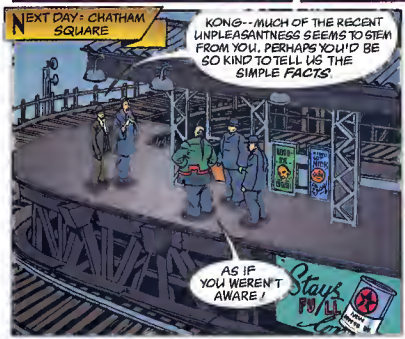
SQUENSH!

AIEEE!

YAO GET WAS TRULY WISE TO BRING YOU TO HIM AT THIS TIME.

AS HIS CLOSEST BLOOD RELATIVE, YOU ARE NOW HEAD OF OUR TONG ... TA JEN.
IT IS SO...


THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT AROUND HERE. FIRST I MUST PUT AN END TO THIS BLOODSHED
SEND WORD THROUGH AN INTERMEDIARY THAT I WANT TO MEET WITH THE HEADS OF THE OTHER TONGS.


NEXT DAY: CHATHAM SQUARE
KONG--MUCH OF THE RECENT UNPLEASANTNESS SEEMS TO STEM FROM YOU. PERHAPS YOU'D BE SO KIND TO TELL US THE SIMPLE FACTS.
AS IF YOU WEREN'T AWARE!
Stay FOLL

KONG-- WOO IS NEWLY RISEN TO HIS PROMINENCE. HE HAS ASKED A PERTINENT QUESTION. YOU WILL PLEASE ANSWER IT CIVILLY
IT BEGAN WITH LEN SUM...
TCHIN KON'S WIFE?

AND MY PROPERTY. SHE WAS SOLD BY HER FATHER IN CANTON INTO SLAVERY; AFTER AN ESCAPE ATTEMPT, SHE WAS CONDEMNED TO BEING TATTOOED TO DEATH.
HOWEVER, AFTER A PAIR OF IMPERIAL DRAGONS WERE INKED ACROSS HER BODY AND DOWN EACH ARM, THE DESIGN WAS SO PLEASING THAT SHE WAS SPARED, AND THE TATTOO-ARTIST KILLED IN HER STEAD
THIS WAS CONSIDERED MOST LUCKY, AND BROUGHT HER TO MY ATTENTION. I BORROWED BANK MONEY TO BUY HER, AND CONSIDERED HER CHEAP AT $3000.

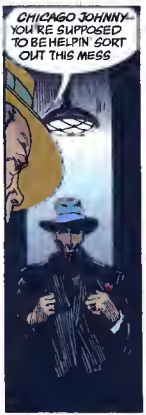
I HAD HER SHIPPED TO SAN FRANCISCO, WHERE I HAD THE DOUBLE DRAGONS COPIED ONTO MY OWN BODY.

HOW CAME SHE TO BE MARRIED TO TCHIN KOW?

I WAS LINKED BY THE POLICE TO A COUNTERFEITING RING.
WITH NO MARRIAGE LICENSE, LEN SUM WAS MOST CRUELLY TAKEN FROM ME, CAUSING ME GREAT LOSS OF FACE.

SHE WAS SENT TO ST. BONAVENTURE'S MISSION THREE YEARS AGO. THEN LAST WEEK, WORD CAME TO ME THAT SHE WAS IN THIS CITY...

ONE HOUR LATER: FULTON FISH MARKET
THIS AIN'T GETTIN' US ANY-PLACE, ENZO. WHAT GOOD'S A GO-BETWEEN?


CHICAGO JOHNNY— YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE HELPIN' SORT OUT THIS MESS

ENZO... GATZ. YOU TWO GABRONES ARE JUST WASTIN' EVERYBODY'S TIME. THE ONLY PROBLEM YOU GOT IS YOU HATE EACH OTHER.
WATCH YOUR LIP, PAL. WE'RE TRYIN' TO MAKE PEACE HERE.

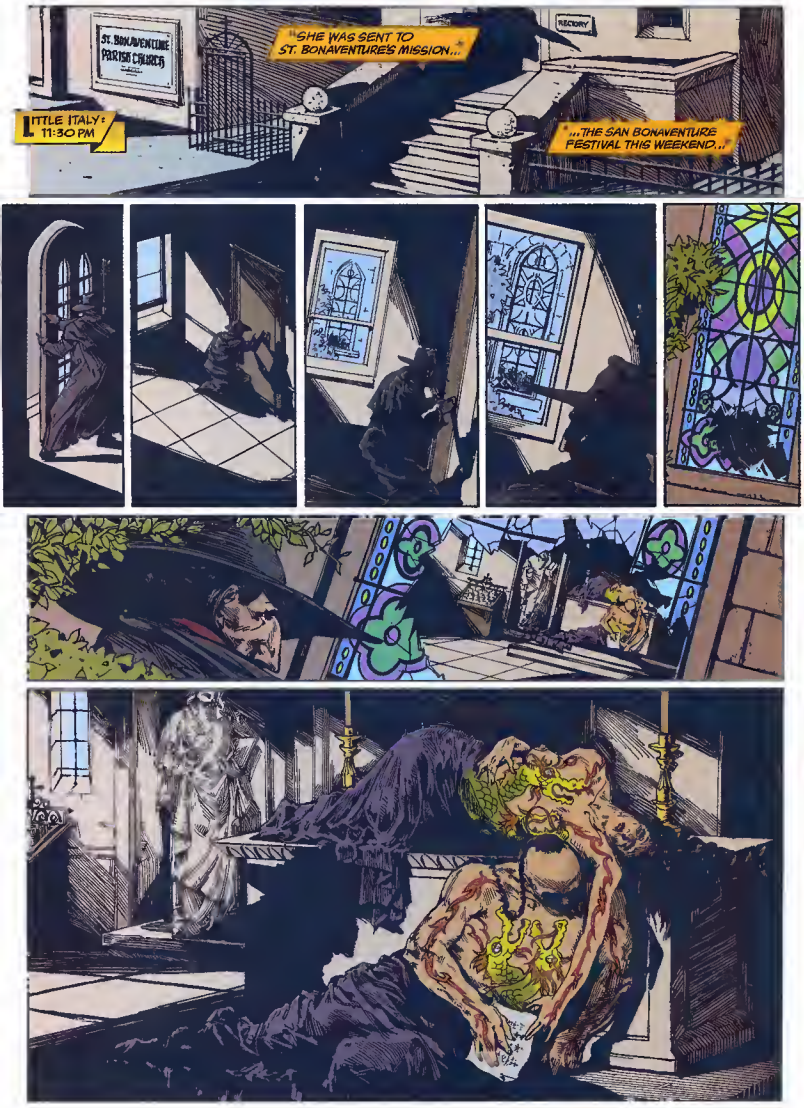
YEAH. WE GOTTA SETTLE THIS. I DON'T WANT ANY RANNYSAZOO AT THE SAN BONAVENTURE FESTIVAL THIS WEEKEND.

I'M TAKIN' A POWDER BACK TO CICERO--YOU CAN ALL KILL EACH OTHER FOR ALL I CARE.
WAIT A MINUTE, PAESANO

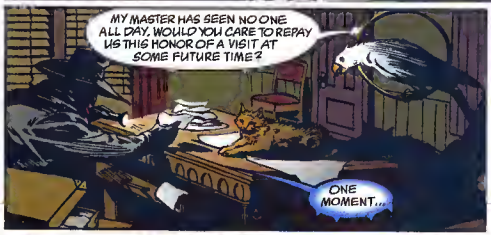
'FRAID NOT, MI AMICI.

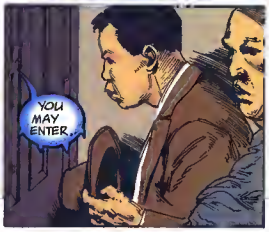
BLAM!
I'M TOO SAVVY TO LET THE LIKES OF YOU PUT ME ON THE SPOT.

HA HA HA HA HA!


ST. BONAVENTURE PARISH CHURCH
LITTLE ITALY: 11:30 PM
"SHE WAS SENT TO ST. BONAVENTURE'S MISSION..."
HICKORY
"...THE SAN BONAVENTURE FESTIVAL THIS WEEKEND..."

CHINATOWN: 12:15PM
MASTER KONG--YOU HAVE ANOTHER VISITOR MASTER KONG?


MY MASTER HAS SEEN NO ONE ALL DAY. WOULD YOU CARE TO REPAY US THIS HONOR OF A VISIT AT SOME FUTURE TIME?
ONE MOMENT...

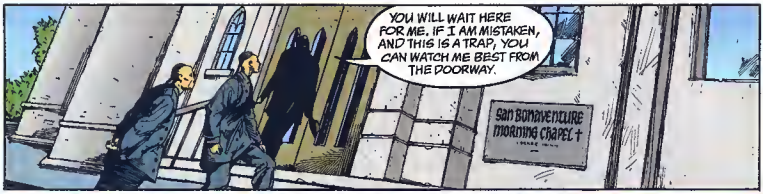

YOU MAY ENTER...

FORGIVE THE INTRUSION, MASTER KONG...
MASTER WOO--HOW MAY I HELP YOU?

I MEAN NO DISRESPECT, BUT YOUR STORY OF LEN SUM HAS BROUGHT ME GREAT... SADNESS.
HER IMAGE LINGERS IN MY MIND. I MUST HELP FIND THE GIRL.

I SEE. I CAN PROMISE THAT MANY MYSTERIES WILL BE EXPLAINED IF YOU WILL MEET ME AT THE MORNING CHAPEL OF SAN BONAVENTURES AT DAWN.
BUT--

NOTHING UNTIL THEN. PLEASE--BE PROMPT.


YOU WILL WAIT HERE FOR ME. IF I AM MISTAKEN, AND THIS IS A TRAP, YOU CAN WATCH ME BEST FROM THE DOORWAY.
San Bonaventure Morning Chapel

KONG! ...LEN SUM?

POOR LITTLE LEN SUM...

WHAT ARE YOU HEATHENS DOING HERE?
HEY, FATHER VINCENZO! COMERE AND GET A LOAD OF OUR VISITORS.

WHADDA YOU WANT? YOU CHINEE TRYIN' TO START SOMETHING?
TAKEE WALKEE. WE DON'T WANT YOU DEFILIN' OUR CHURCH. SEE?

NO GO! YOU WAIT.
YOU WAIT, YOU WAIT!
NOT A CHANCE. PUSH ON THROUGH!
SAY, WHAT IS THIS?
IF YOU GUYS ARE UP TO SOMETHING, I'LL--
GENTLEMEN.
WHAT IS GOING ON HERE? WHO ARE YOU PEOPLE?
I HAVE COME TO PAY MY RESPECTS TO SAN BONAVENTURE ...
OF ALL THE--
...AND TO ASK A FAVOR. A COUNTRYWOMAN OF MINE, RAISED IN YOUR CHURCH MISSION HERE, HAS PASSED AWAY.
I WOULD CONSIDER IT A GREAT HONOR IF SHE COULD BE BURIED IN THE CHRISTIAN WAY -- HERE IN THIS CHURCH SHE LEARNED TO LOVE AND HONOR.
I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS SOMEWHAT OF AN IMPOSITION, BUT PERHAPS TOMORROW, WHEN YOUR FEAST IS ENDED... WOULD YOU PERFORM THE SERVICE?
WE ARE HONORED THAT YOU ASK, AND I'D BE ASHAMED TO GIVE ANY OTHER ANSWER THAN YES.
I WILL MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS IMMEDIATELY.

AS THE HERMIT WROTE:
THE WAY ITSELF IS LIKE SOMETHING SEEN IN A DREAM, ELUSIVE, EVADING ONE. IN IT ARE THINGS LIKE SHADOWS IN TWILIGHT. DESCRIBE IT AS FORM YET UNFORMED; AS SHAPE THAT IS STILL WITHOUT SHAPE; OR SAY THAT IT IS VAGUENESS CONFUSED: ONE MEETS IT AND IT HAS NO FACE; ONE FOLLOWS AND THERE'S NO BACK.
(AS FOR THOSE WHO DELIGHT TO DO MURDER, IT IS CERTAIN THEY CAN NEVER GET FROM THE WORLD WHAT THEY SOUGHT WHEN AMBITION URGED THEM TO POWER AND RULE.)
HELL BANK NOTE
家酒京

The Woo matter is closed. He is safe and in place. His calming hand will prevail over further tong disputes. However—
UNEXPLAINED: The anonymous notes and actions that fomented the violence between the tongs, Italian gangs, Irish, and other immigrant factions... Kong's death, made to look like suicide... the finger in Kevin Lo's mouth...
Areas of overlap:
- West Side Midtown
- Hell's Kitchen
- Waterfront
The pattern indicates some manner of cover story. Someone is trying to hide his trail, but there are discernible connections.
This case is not closed...

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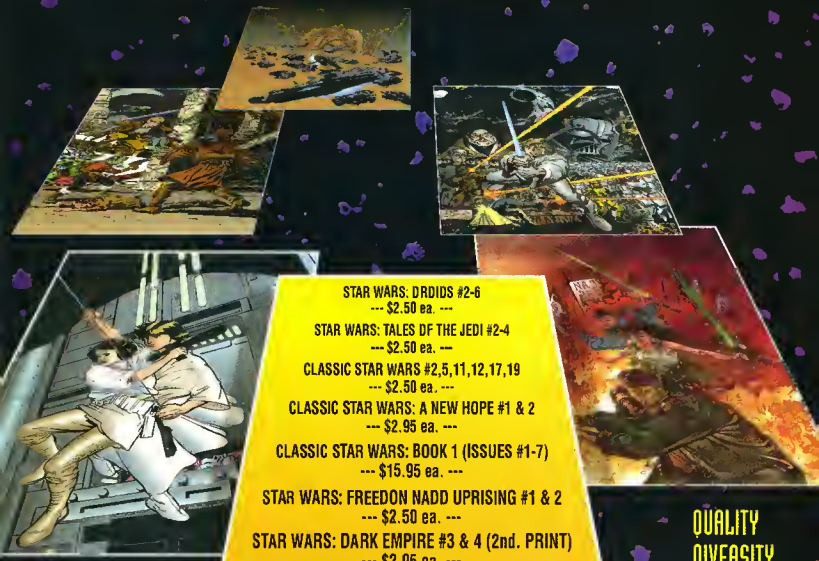

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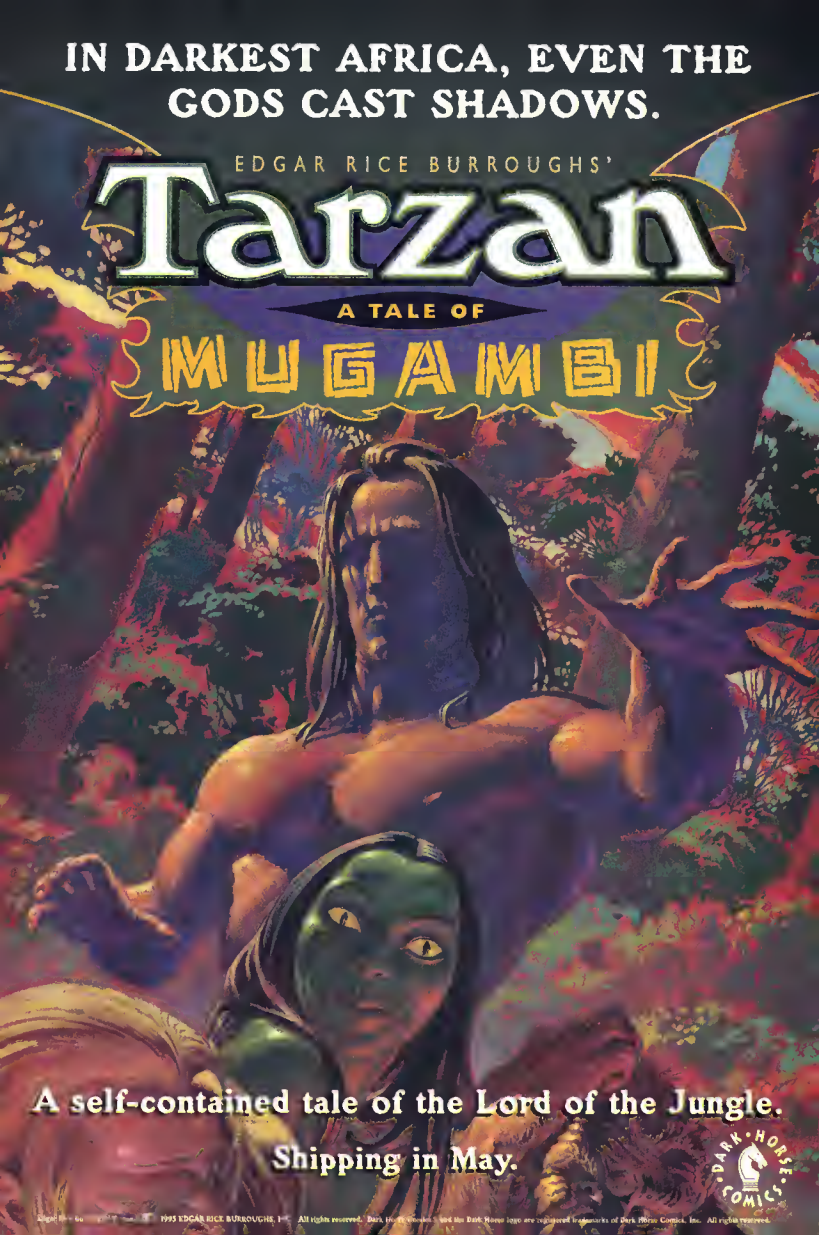
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THE BATTLE BEGINS IN MAY.

COVERS BY RICHARD CORBEN!

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FINISH LINE

Quick — ! Here's a pop quiz . . .

What kind of comic-book material comes to mind when you think of Dark Horse?

Movie-based comics? Yes, we do those, and have been very successful with them, too. *The Legend imprint?* Yep, Dark Horse is the home of the fan-favorite Legend titles. *Cutting-edge, creator-owned series?* True, Dark Horse has a rep for being *the* place where creators can nurture their "babies."

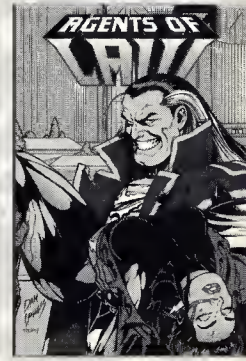
But superhero comics? **Superhero** *comics?!* At *Dark Horse?* What are you, *crazy?* Dark Horse is known for quality comics for discerning readers, so we'd be the *lost* company to publish superhero comics, right?

Well, think again.

April 1995 marks the debut of ***Dark Horse Heroes***. No, ***Dark Horse Heroes*** is not merely a cosmetic renaming of the ***Comics' Greatest World*** line. We're actually changing our philosophy of how we produce superhero comics.

Gone is a line of titles whose content is dictated solely by a shared universe, where forced continuity, gimmicks, events, and multi-chaptered crossovers always rule. The focus of the ***Dark Horse Heroes*** books is upon the characters, their personalities, and their creative directions. These comics — ***X, Agents of Low, The Mask***, and the forthcoming ***Ghost, Motorhead, The Mark***, and ***Barb Wire*** — feature realistic portrayals of people with powers in worlds where you never know what next to expect.

But the changes go beyond that. The *name* of the line itself — ***Dark Horse Heroes*** — should say a lot to those of you who are familiar with Dark Horse's short but rich history. This publishing company is known and respected for its dedication to quality, creativity, and diversity — and for its willingness to take chances



with story content and conventions. Line editors Marilee Hord, Greg Vest, and I have borrowed those elements and infused them into our ***Dark Horse Heroes*** books. We take very seriously the reputation this company has earned, and it is our mission to ensure that every ***Dark Horse Heroes*** comic is worthy of the Dark Horse name.

So when you see a book bearing the ***Dark Horse Heroes*** banner, rest assured you'll be reading a *Dark Horse* comic — not yet another installment of a series that reminds you of a series that reminds you of three or four other series. You'll see characters and comics unlike those offered elsewhere. In fact, you'll get a damn good comic book every time — and isn't that what Dark Horse is all about?

— Michael Eury
group editor

APR. CHECKLIST

SHIPPING APRIL 4
- ❑ ALIENS: MONDO PEST
- ❑ BABE 2 #2
- ❑ GHOST (TRADE PAPERBACK COLLECTION)
- ❑ GHOST IN THE SHELL #2
- ❑ JAMES BOND 007: THE QUASIMODO GAMBIT #3
- ❑ STAR WARS: JABBA THE HUTT
- ❑ X #13

SHIPPING APRIL 11
- ❑ AGENTS OF LAW #2
- ❑ ALIENS VS. PREDATOR: DUEL #2
- ❑ CLASSIC STAR WARS: THE EARLY ADVENTURES #9
- ❑ COLORS IN BLACK #2
- ❑ DARK HORSE INSIDER #41
- ❑ DARK HORSE PRESENTS #96
- ❑ GHOST #1
- ❑ INDIANA JONES AND THE SPEAR OF DESTINY #1
- ❑ STAR WARS: DROIDS, VOL. 2 #1

SHIPPING APRIL 18
- ❑ ALIENS: BERSERKER #4
- ❑ BACCHUS COLOR SPECIAL
- ❑ DOMU: A CHILD'S DREAM #2
- ❑ GRENDEL TALES: DEVIL'S CHOICES #2
- ❑ STAR WARS: DARK EMPIRE II #5
- ❑ TRIPLE-X #5
- ❑ WOLF & RED #1

SHIPPING APRIL 25
- ❑ DANGER UNLIMITED (TRADE PAPERBACK COLLECTION)
- ❑ HARLAN ELLISON'S DREAM CORRIDOR #2
- ❑ THE LEGEND OF MOTHER SARAH #1
- ❑ THE MASK #3
- ❑ NEXUS: THE WAGES OF SIN #2
- ❑ OH MY GODDESS! PART 2 #3
- ❑ THE SHADOW: HELL'S NEAT WAVE #1

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